

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 08721 081618Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 VO-05 CA-01  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INSE-00 INRE-00 /045 W  
-----116509 081625Z /43

O 081601Z JUN 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0589  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 08721

FOR HA CARLIN FROM LOWMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM: POSSIBLE USE OF  
PHILIPPINES OR MACAU AS TEMPORARY TRANSIT CENTER

1. UNHCR OFFERED VARIETY OF REASONS WHY IT MAY BE  
UNNECESSARY TO USE MACAU AS HOLDING FACILITY TO ACCOMMODATE  
OVERFLOW FROM HONG KONG. UNDERLYING REASON, HOWEVER,  
IS OBVIOUSLY POSSIBLE CHINESE SENSITIVITY TO USE OF  
MACAU TERRITORY FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS DOES NOT APPEAR  
TO BE AN ABSOLUTE BAR TO UNHCR ACTION IN THIS RESPECT  
AND, IN LIGHT OF LATEST EXPRESSION OF CONCERN BY CONGEN  
HONG KONG, THEY WILL REEXAMINE POSITION.

2. SUCH A FACILITY, HOWEVER, WOULD AT MOST BE FOR THE  
HONG KONG OVERFLOW AND UNHCR WOULD NOT WISH TO BE  
INVOLVED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LARGER TRANSIT FACILITY  
AS A HOLDING CAMP FOR REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES PRO-  
GRAM. FURTHER, UNHCR BELIEVES THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE  
DIFFICULTY IN THE USG ESTABLISHING AN ADEQUATE FACILITY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 08721 081618Z

OF THIS NATURE THROUGH BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS.

3. UNHCR SUGGESTS THAT THE PHILIPPINES MAY BE A BETTER  
ALTERNATIVE FOR SUCH A FACILITY. THEY HAVE FOUND THE  
GOP RELAXED ABOUT REFUGEES AND ANXIOUS FOR A CONTINUED  
UNHCR PRESENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE UNHCR WOULD BE  
PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE GOP FOR A FACILITY UNDER

UNHCR AUSPICES ACCOMMODATING 5,000 - 6,000 REFUGEES IN TRANSIT. THEY BELIEVE THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE OF SUCCESS IF ALL REFUGEES ENTERING THE CAMP ARE GUARANTEED ONWARD RESETTLEMENT AND ALL COSTS ARE COVERED BY THE UNHCR. WHILE THE UNITED STATES INTEREST IN SUCH A FACILITY WOULD BE OBVIOUS, IT WOULD BE A UNHCR-SPONSORED FACILITY AND NOT, AT LEAST IN PRINCIPAL, LIMITED TO REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES PROGRAM.

4. LOWMAN STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT UNHCR BE ENCOURAGED TO PROCEED WITH NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOP ON A TENTATIVE BASIS, FULLY RECOGNIZING THAT FINAL IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS, COST ESTIMATES AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS. PLEASE ADVISE U.S. MISSION GENEVA SOONEST.VANDEN HEUVEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), REFUGEE CAMPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GENEVA08721  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780239-1159  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GENEVA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780683/aaaacsut.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6134408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION HA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2442253  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM: POSSIBLE USE OF PHILIPPINES OR MACAU AS TEMPORARY TRANSIT CENTER  
**TAGS:** SREF, TH, MY, HK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6134408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014